

9 April 1963

*W. Alexis Johnson Ford*  
**MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Under Secretary of State  
for Political Affairs**

**SUBJECT : Concurrence in Proposal for Action  
under NSAM 192**

**REFERENCE : Memorandum dated 18 Mar 63 from the  
Deputy Under Secretary of State, Subj:  
Further Action Under NSAM 192**

I agree with the contingency plan referred to in the referenced memorandum and concur in the proposal to transmit it to the President.

With respect to the associated study relating to satellite inspection and a system for neutralizing satellites in orbit, I feel compelled to emphasize that a practical operating system which would accomplish either of these two objectives is beyond our present capability. An intensive development program would be necessary to obtain a non-nuclear kill system for satellites in a simple orbit and the feasibility of developing such a system for more complicated satellites is not yet clearly established. Even more difficult would be the development of a practical system for inspecting a satellite and determining whether it contained a nuclear weapon.

/s/ John A. McCone

**JOHN A. McCONE**  
Director

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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I agree with the contingency plan referred to in the reference  
memorandum and concur in the proposal to transmit it and the  
associated study relating to satellite inspection to the President.

John A. McCone  
Director

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9 Apr 63*

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